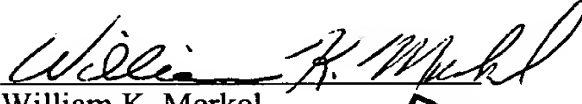




PATENT APPLICATION  
Attorney Docket No: 28341/6114.N

1645  
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2/5/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Lowery et al.	)	I hereby certify that this paper is being
Serial No: 09/809,524	)	deposited with the United States Postal
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MATERIALS AND METHODS	)	Commissioner for Patents and
Group Art Unit: 1645	)	Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on
Examiner: Mark Navarro	)	this date: January 15, 2003
	)	
	)	
	)	William K. Merkel

RESPONSE UNDER C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

This is a response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed on October 17, 2002 (hereinafter, the "Office Action"), by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-referenced application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 8, and 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for assertedly lacking enablement commensurate in scope with the claims. Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for assertedly lacking written descriptive support and under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for asserted indefiniteness. Claims 1, 3-4, 8, 10, and 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as assertedly being anticipated by Holden (U.S. Patent No. 5,876,931) (hereinafter "Holden"). Claims 6-7 and 9 were subject to objection as assertedly depending upon a rejected base claim. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following amendment and remarks.